GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1738
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2007
EXPLORATION OF GAS BY GAIL IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES
Veerendra Kumar Shri M.P.

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL) has taken up exploration and production work of petroleum and gas outside India;

(b) if so, the details thereof, country-wise;

(c) whether the GAIL has the requisite expertise and trained man power to undertake exploration work as is the case with ONGC and other public sector oil companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps taken by the GAIL to expand its business in and outside the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. GAIL has Working Interest in three E&P blocks with other consortium partners outside India. The details of the blocks are as given:

Block	Country	GAIL's Share	Operator
A-1	Myanmar	10%	Daewoo International Corpn.
A-3	Myanmar	10%	Corpn.
No. 56	Oman	25%	Oilex Oman Limited

(c) & (d): Yes Sir, GAIL has qualified and trained geologists, geophysicists and petroleum engineers. GAIL has also engaged full time advisors. Two geo-scientific workstations have been installed in GAIL since February 2002.

(e): GAIL would be participating in the forthcoming NELP VII and CBM IV bidding rounds. GAIL has also plans for investment in potential E&P opportunities through bidding / farm-in in countries, from where gas can be sourced or where GAIL can leverage its midstream / downstream presence.